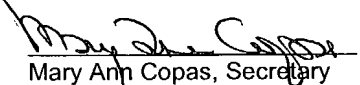




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 26, 2004 (Monday).


Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the Application of Björn Liedtke et al

Ser.No.: 10/018,144

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING A DATA CARRIER

Art Unit: 1734

Examiner: Sue A. Purvis

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 09/25/2003

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.